during 1993-94 (upto 31st March 1993) indicating whether the foreign exchange earning for 1992-93 which was projected to be as Rs. 4,000 Crores was actually realised;

(b) what was the number of foreign tourists who visited India during 1992-93 indicating/registering an increase/decline in percentage over 1991-92 (including Pakistan and Bangladesh) particularly in Rajasthan; and

(c) what was budgetary allocation made during the last three years (year-wise) and whether the adequacy of infrastructural facilities and reaction of tourists taken into account while allocating funds and also as to what extent provided under the National Action Plan presented to Parliament on 5th May, 1992?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The estimated foreign exchange earnings from tourism during the year 1991-92 and 1992-93 were Rs. 3319 crores and Rs. 3990 crores respectively. The earning during the first three months of 1993-94 is estimated to be Rs. 756 crores.

(b) The number of foreign tourists including the nationals of Pakistan and Bangladesh, who visited India during 1992-93 were 1820239 registering an increase of about 2.2% over the corresponding period of the previous year. In the case of Rajasthan, the foreign tourist arrivals during 1992 registered an increase of about 11% over the previous year.

(c) The Central Plan Budget for tourism sector during the years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 were Rs. 67.5 crores, Rs. 77.0 crores and Rs. 80.0 crores respectively. These allocations were made by the Planning Commission on the basis of the demand projected by different sectors including tourism, development priorities and overall budget constraints.

Fleecing of Tourists in Himachal Pradesh

4196. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that Government have received complaints of mass fleecing of tourists who visited H.P. in the season just concluded;

(b) if so, the nature of complaints received in this regard; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Construction of Air-strip in Lahaul and Spiti District

4197. SHRI SUSHIL BORANGPA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to construct air-strip in Lahaul and Spiti district, namely at Sumnam and Rangrik was ever submitted by the State Government of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether the Central Government have any proposal under consideration for construction of atleast one air-strip in the far-flung tribal district of Lahaul and Spiti?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) The State Government of Himachal Pradesh had requested National Airports Authority (NAA) to carry out feasibility study for construction of air-strips at Rangrik Spiti and Sumnam in Lahaul valley. NAA requested the State Govenment to furnish certain basic technical data and information before deputing an expert team for site survey and feasibility study. Further action will be taken on receipt of the requisite information from the State Government. NAA has no plan at present to construct air-strip at Sumnam or Rangrik due to financial constraints.

Operation of Vayudoot in Maharashtra

4198. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Vayudoot, which is operating commercial services in different parts of Maharashtra, propose to trim its operations in the State;

(b) if so, what are the details of the services which are proposed to be discontinued; and

(c) what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.